THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, the 13th May 1954.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

I.—SWEARING-IN OF NEW MEMBERS.

The following Members were sworn-in :—

(1) Sri G. Krishnamurthi.
(2) Sri S. Narsapaya.
(3) Sri E. H. Parameswaran.
(4) Sri T. Purushotham.

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II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Clerks, Superintendents and Assistant Secretaries from the Vannar community working in the Secretariat.

* 46 *Q.*—SRI M. ETHIRAJULU : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the number of lower division and upper division clerks, Superintendents and Assistant Secretaries from the Vannar community working now in the Secretariat?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) :—" There is one person in the category of Upper division clerks who belongs to the Vannar Community. He is employed in the Agriculture Department."

SRI M. ETHIRAJULU :—" May I know, Sir, the qualification and the extent of service of that person? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not have information about that, Sir."

SRI M. ETHIRAJULU :—" Sir, in view of the fact that it is a rare case to see such a qualified person from the downtrodden community, may I know whether any special encouragement will be given to him? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not think that in the matter of promotions any special consideration can be shown except the consideration of merit."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Sir, may I ask the Hon. Minister to indicate what steps the Government have taken or propose to take to pull up all backward communities in the matter of adequate representation in the public services? "